

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/825,136

Examiner

Tuyet Vo

Applicant(s)

CHIEH ET AL.

Art Unit

2821

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to January 23, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 30-55.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


TUYET VO
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAIL ACTION

Examiner's Amendment

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as following:

In the claim, claim 38, line 1, delete "310" and insert --31-- after "claim".

The above noted amendment has been added in order to correct a typographical error in claim language.

Reasons For Allowance

2. Claims 30-55 are allowed.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art of record fails to disclose a ballast device and method as well for regulating power to a load module by comprises an assistant power circuit receiving from an external voltage and generating an outer working voltage, a transformer module for converting the external voltage into an output voltage applied to the load module and inducing an actual load current flowing through the load module, a micro control unit which receives the outer working voltage and generates a predefined load current, and a PWM control unit, which comprises a PID control module that receives and operates on the predefined load current and the actual load current in order to generate a control signal to the transformer module to modulate the output voltage as required in claims 30, 40 and 49.

4. The remaining dependent claims are allowable for at least above reason.

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicants'

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disclosure. Hwang (US Pat. 6,812,916) discloses driving circuit for LCD backlight. Liao et al. (US Pat. 6,642,674) discloses twin-dimming controller for backlight system. Kambara et al. (US Pub. 2003/0076053) discloses ballast for a discharge lamp. Watanabe (US Pub. 2006/0055341) discloses a discharge lamp lighting device, illumination device and protector. None of cited/recorded prior arts stands alone or combination with others discloses all limitation required in claim invention.

Remarks

Amendment filed January 23, 2006 has been entered.

Correspondence

Any comments considered necessarily by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tuyet Vo whose telephone number is (571) 272 1830. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tim Callahan can be reached on (571) 272 1740. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding assigned is (571) 273-8300 for regular communications and for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 571 272 2800.

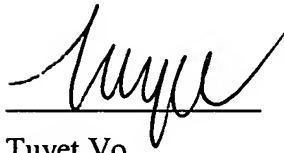
Information regarding the status of an application or status information for publicizing/unpublicizing applications may be obtained from the Patent Application Information

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Retrieval (PAIR) system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at toll free 866-217-9197.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tuyet Vo', is written over a horizontal line.

Tuyet Vo

Primary Examiner

April 27, 2006

APPROVED TO BE ENTERED
90/2814. AL



Fig.2

REPLACEMENT SHEET DRAWING



APPROVED TO BE ENTERED
T.V. 4/27/06

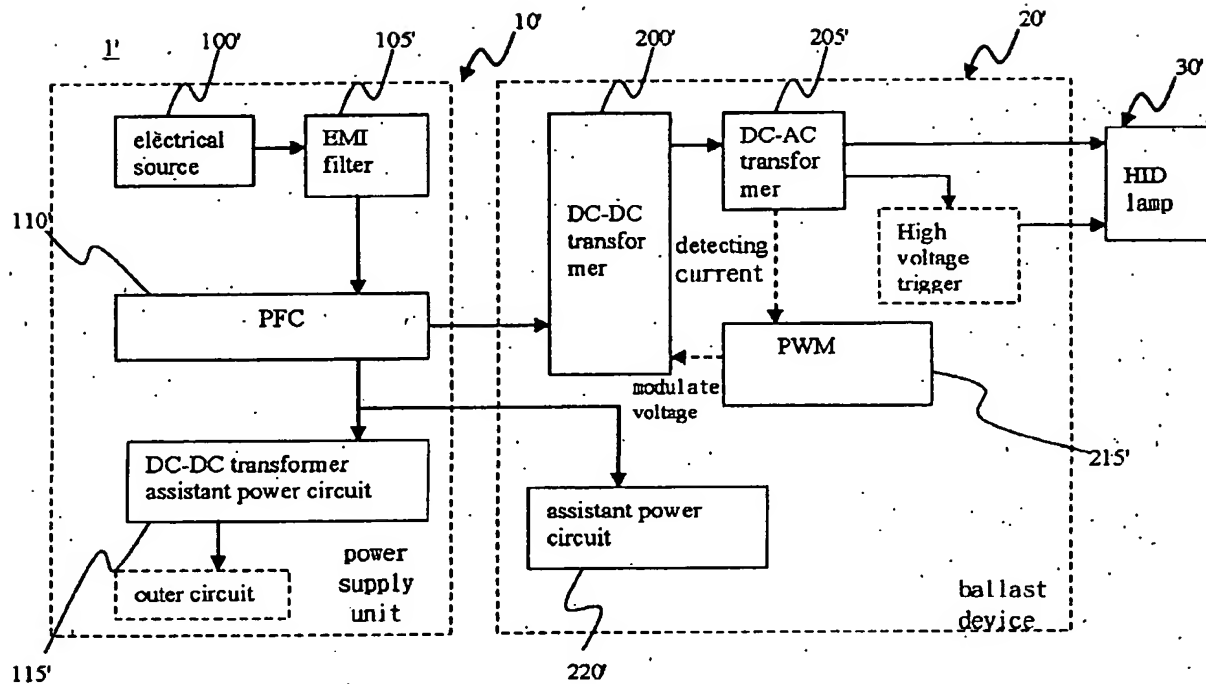


Fig. 1
(Prior Art)